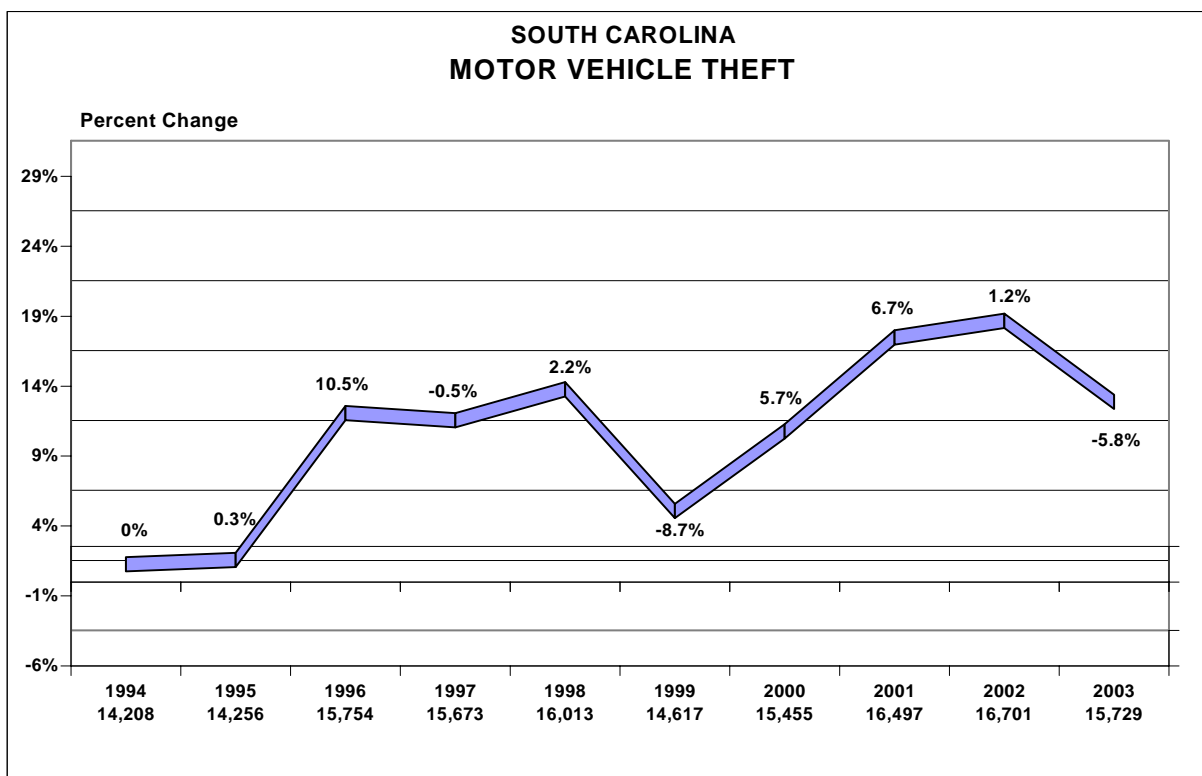


# MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

## **DEFINITION**

Motor Vehicle theft, for UCR purposes, is defined as the theft of a self-propelled vehicle that runs on the surface of the land but not on rails. Motor vehicles include automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and the like. One offense is counted for each vehicle stolen. This category does not include boats, farm equipment, tractors, bulldozers, etc. Motor vehicle theft does not include using a vehicle without the owner's consent if prior consent or lawful access has been granted. Obtaining vehicles through fraud or failure to return rented vehicles are not included in this category. Attempts to steal motor vehicles as well as "joyrides" are counted as motor vehicle thefts.



### 2003 SUMMARY

A total of 15,729 motor vehicle thefts was reported in the 2003 crime index. During this year, motor vehicle thefts decreased 5.8 percent compared to those reported in 2002.

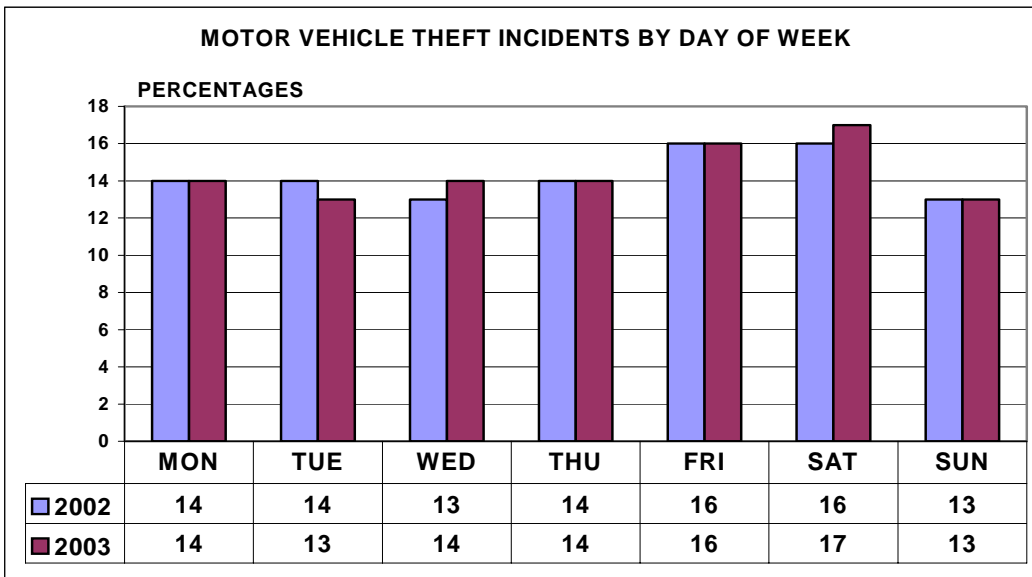
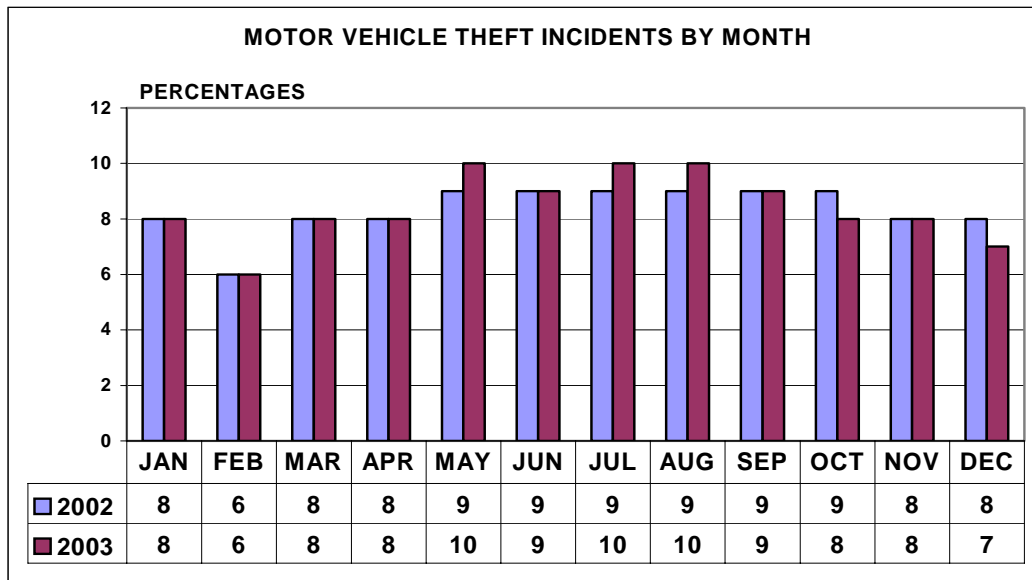
There were 1,963 motor vehicle thefts cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared, amounting to a clearance rate of 12.5 percent statewide.

Motor vehicle thefts accounted for 8.5 percent of all nonviolent crimes and 7.2 percent of the total crime index.

The motor vehicle theft rate in South Carolina was 38.0 per 10,000 persons.

Of all persons arrested for motor vehicle theft, 78.0 percent were 34 years of age or younger. With respect to race, 50.2 percent were white, 49.5 percent were black, and 0.3 percent were other races.

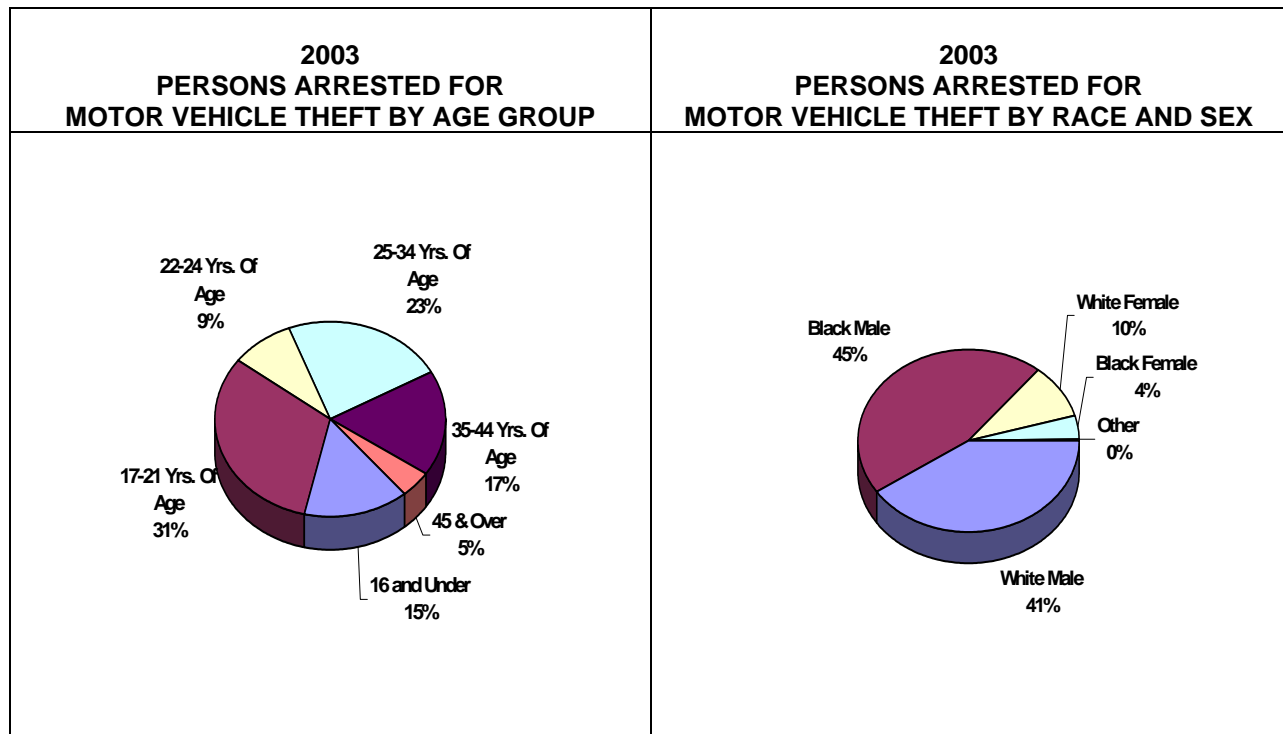
There were 15,729 motor vehicle thefts reported in 2003. Of these, 4.1 percent were attempted motor vehicle thefts.



**2003 PERSONS ARRESTED FOR MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT  
BY AGE, SEX, RACE**

Age Group	Total	White Male	Black Male	Other Male	White Female	Black Female	Other Female
01 – 04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
05 – 09	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 – 16	183	52	97	0	20	14	0
17 – 21	396	156	202	1	26	11	0
22 – 24	111	54	43	0	8	6	0
25 – 34	287	114	124	1	36	12	0
35 – 44	216	106	73	2	26	9	0
45 – 54	51	23	22	0	5	1	0
55 – 64	5	2	3	0	0	0	0
65 – 99	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
<b>State Total</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>0</b>

**NOTE:** The arrest counts shown here have not been subjected to the “hierarchy rule” (explained elsewhere); therefore, all persons arrested that are linked to this offense type are counted.



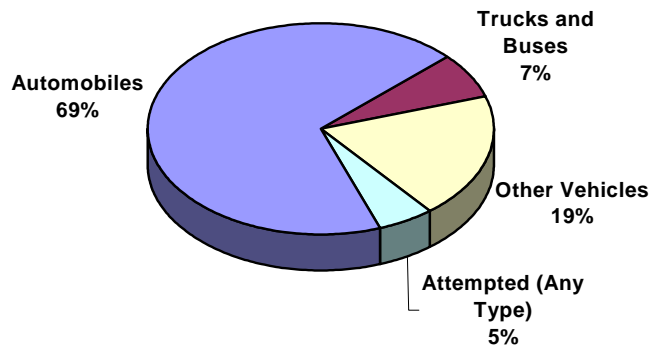
Forty-one percent of persons arrested for motor vehicle theft in 2003 were white males, 41 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger; 45 percent were black males, 53 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger. White females accounted for 10 percent of persons arrested for motor vehicle theft, and black females accounted for 4 percent. Thirty-eight percent of the white females and 47 percent of the black females were 21 years of age or younger.

### 2002-2003 MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT TRENDS

Type Vehicle	2001	% Distr.	2002	% Distr.	2003	% Distr.
Automobiles	N/A	N/A	11,437	68.5	10,773	68.5
Trucks and Buses	N/A	N/A	1,226	7.3	1,053	6.7
Other Vehicles	N/A	N/A	3,083	18.5	3,132	19.9
Attempted (No vehicle type)	N/A	N/A	955	5.7	771	4.9
<b>State Total</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>16,701</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,729</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**NOTE:** The vehicle counts in this table have been taken from a report which selects only the most serious offense in an incident (hierarchy rule).

### 2002-2003 MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT BY TYPE VEHICLE



### 2002-2003 MOTOR VEHICLE THEFTS BY PREMISE

Premise	2001 Veh. Thefts	% Distr.	2002 Veh. Thefts	% Distr.	2003 Veh. Thefts	% Distr.
Residences, Apts.	N/A	N/A	8,602	50.1	8,562	52.1
Roads, Parking Lots, etc.	N/A	N/A	3,590	20.9	3,369	20.5
Commercial	N/A	N/A	2,450	14.3	2,344	14.3
Nightclubs, Bars	N/A	N/A	219	1.3	223	1.4
Hotels, Motels	N/A	N/A	407	2.4	323	2.0
Convenience Stores, etc.	N/A	N/A	496	2.9	501	3.0
Schools, Churches	N/A	N/A	239	1.4	197	1.2
Woods, etc.	N/A	N/A	111	0.6	100	0.6
Other	N/A	N/A	1,058	6.2	819	5.0
<b>State Total</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>17,172</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>16,438</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**NOTE:** The counts in this table have not been subjected to the "hierarchy rule" (explained elsewhere).

### 2002-2003 MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT BY PREMISE

